

The Forest of Reading

The Ontario Library Association's **Forest of Reading** program is coming to Timberbank! The Forest of Reading program offers seven reading clubs that promote a love of reading to readers of all ages. This year, Timberbank will be participating in three of the seven programs: **Blue Spruce** (Kindergarten to Grade 2), **Silver Birch Express** (Grade 3 and Grade 4), and **Silver Birch** (Grade 5 and Grade 6). All Forest of Reading Books are written and/or illustrated by Canadian authors and illustrators.

Each Forest of Reading program has a list of ten books for students to read. Kindergarten to Grade 2 students will be participating in reading all the books and completing voting in the library beginning in January. Grade 3-6 students will be participating in book clubs held at recess as well as individual reading completed at home. Students who read five or more of the books from one program are invited in April to vote on their favourite books from their grade program. Voting takes place across Ontario with the ***Festival of Trees*** celebration unveiling the winners of each **Forest of Reading** program. Prizes will be awarded to Timberbank students in each grade for the most books read and accurate guess of the final vote. Therefore, the more books that students read the greater the chance that they have to win prizes!

The program will be beginning in January, but students are encouraged to begin reading the books as soon as they arrive in the library. The library is anticipating the books to arrive at the end of November. Here is a sneak peek at the books:

Blue Spruce: Kindergarten to Grade 2 Picture Books

Big Bear Hug by Nicholas Oldland

A story of a bear who loves to hug everything from his fellow forest creatures to trees, especially trees. When this tree-loving bear sees a man with an axe heading towards the oldest tree in the forest he has to decide what to do. How can he stop the man from hurting the tree?

C'mere Boy! by Sharon Jennings and Ashley Spires

Every kid has begged for the perfect pet, but when Dog goes looking for the perfect owner, things get interesting! Mama warns him that having an owner is a lot of work, but Dog persists, getting things ready for his perfect companion. Will Dog be able to sniff out the owner he's always wanted?

Have I Got a Book for You! by Mélanie Watt

The author of *Scaredy Squirrel* presents a character you just can't say "no" to: salesman Mr. Al Foxword. Al can sell anything. You can't help but be impressed by his line-up of satisfied customers: he's sold an icebox to a penguin, an umbrella to a fish and a dirt vacuum to a mole.

The Imaginary Garden by Andrew Larsen and Irene Luxbacher

Theo loves to sit with her grandpa in his garden, but when Poppa has to move to an apartment, his balcony is too windy for a real garden. So Theo and Poppa set out to create an imaginary garden using canvas and paints instead of seeds and soil.

Jack the Bear by Christina Leist

Brainy Owl says Jack the Bear is making the world a better place, but Nosy Fox can't understand how. Nosy knows that prime ministers, presidents, peace prize winners and other important people make the world a better place. But how is Jack the Bear helping?

My Think-A-Ma-Jink by Dave Whamond

Jack is bored by all his birthday gifts, aside from Uncle Doug's present of a Think-a-ma-jink. With it, Jack, along with his sister Marie, creates endless possibilities for excitement. But when the Think-a-ma-jink breaks, Jack learns that Uncle Doug's true gift was the rediscovery of imagination.

Perfect Snow by Barbara Reid

Even if it is not a snow day it can be Perfect Snow for recess at school. While Scott is making snowmen, Jim is working on the world's greatest snow fort. Can recess contain all this creative, competitive construction? Barbara Reid captures the moments of a Canadian school yard in winter with her stunning art.

Proud as a Peacock, Brave as a Lion by Jane Barclay and Renné Benoit

A grandson imagines the animals his grandfather uses to explain how he felt when he was in uniform and fighting in the war. After the grandfather lays a wreath in memory of a friend they decide to become elephants and never forget.

Violet by Tania Duprey Stehlik and Vanja Jovanovic

In Violet's world where people come in a variety of colours, she learns to find her place and embrace her own special colour.

Willow's Whispers by Lana Button and Tania Howells

Willow's words always come out in whispers. At school, she just can't seem to make her wishes heard. Finally, she gets the idea of making herself a magic microphone so she can be heard. It works at first, but what will happen when the microphone breaks?

Silver Birch Express Fiction and Non-Fiction: Grade 3 and 4 Fiction and Non Fiction**100% Pure Fake: Gross Out Your Friends and Family with 25 Great Special Effects! By Lyn Thomas with Cheryl Powers and Boris Zaytsev**

Parents, beware of this book. With 100% Pure Fake, the art of scaring the pants off friends and family reaches new levels of ease and sophistication. Pranksters can now amaze, alarm and totally disgust everyone with these easy-to-make Pure Fakes. These 25 safe, kid-tested recipes that can be made with ingredients found in most households, including corn syrup, rolled oats, makeup and pasta.

Adventures of Rabbit and Bear Paws: True Hearts by Chad Solomon, Christopher Meyer

Rabbit and Bear Paws are always ready for an adventure and the gathering of men to engage in a contest to find the bravest, fastest and strongest among them has them ready to play pranks. Join in the fun and see just what happens when you tamper with tradition.

The Ballad of Knuckles McGraw by Lois Peterson

Will Kevin Mason, alias Knuckles McGraw, adjust to his new life in a foster home when his mom leaves and doesn't come back?

Binky the Space Cat by Ashley Spires

This funny graphic novel is for all of those readers who have wondered about what could possibly be going on in the mind of their favourite housecat. Binky has it covered!

A Coyote Solstice Tale by Thomas King, Gary Clement

Celebrating the Solstice means sharing and friendship but Coyote and his friends learn you can't buy that at the mall.

A Different Game by Sylvia Olsen

In this sequel to Murphy and Mousetrap, Murphy and his friends are trying out for the soccer team at their new school. After training hard all summer they notice something wrong with Albert during tryouts. Why isn't he playing like the superstar that everyone knows?

It's A Snap! George Eastman's First Photograph by Monica Kulling, Bill Slavin

In 1877 in Rochester, New York, George Eastman couldn't understand why picture-taking was so difficult. Having left school at fourteen to support his mother and two sisters, George decided to find out by making photography his hobby. He packed up glass plates, a plate holder, a tent, a heavy tripod, a thick piece of black cloth, a water jug, and chemicals and set off to take his first photograph.

Polar Bears by Norbert Rosing

An essential introduction to the North's most spectacular species.

Polar Bears brings together acclaimed photographer Norbert Rosing's vibrant images and his firsthand knowledge of the Arctic to chronicle a year in the life of the polar bear, the Earth's largest land predator.

Thumb and the Bad Guys by Ken Roberts

Thumb and his friends live in a remote fishing village in British Columbia. With only 143 inhabitants, what could possibly ever happen that is interesting? But, there just could be something mysterious going on – where is Kirk going to in the woods? What is that wailing that is coming from the shed? Join Thumb as they track down the bad guys.

Vanishing Habitats by Robert Bateman

A stunning collection of paintings depicting the world's most threatened habitats and the animals that live there.

Silver Birch Fiction: Grade 5 and 6**Archaeolojesters by Andreas Oertel**

Ancient Egyptian Artifact Found in Manitoba. Cody, Eric and Rachel's hoax brings life, action and a mysterious stranger to their small town.

Branded by Eric Walters

What!!! School uniforms? Is there anything Ian and his friends can do about the new school dress code?

Dunces Anonymous by Kate Jaimet

A madcap story in which Josh and friends come up with "cunning plans" to get them out of participating in activities their parents wish them to excel at.

The Giant-Slayer by Iain Lawrence

Using the power of imagination and storytelling, Laurie creates a world of gnomes, unicorn hunters, swamp witches and giants for a group of lonely children imprisoned in iron lungs fighting the devastating disease Polio.

Home Free by Sharon Jennings

When a new girl moves in across the street, it's the beginning of Lee's most exciting and life-changing summer ever.

The Hunchback Assignments by Arthur Slade

A mad scientist, a chameleon like hunchback, secret agents and a sinister plot to rule the world....if those sound like the elements of a good story, then The Hunchback Assignments by award winning author Arthur Slade is the book for you! Caution: not for the faint of heart.

Neil Flambé and the Marco Polo Murders by Kevin Sylvester

Author/illustrator/broadcaster Kevin Sylvester has turned his pen to fiction in this year's nominated Neil Flambé and the Marco Polo Murders. Protagonist Flambé is a fourteen-year-old wunderchef with a sense of smell that would shame the greatest perfumer. Not only a world class chef, he is using all of his talents to solve a mystery that crosses continents and time. As they say "you can't crack an egg without getting a few shells", so while Neil is busy helping his friend Police Inspector Sean Nakamura solve the murders of the town's best chef's, he finds himself quickly going from the fire into the proverbial frying pan.

Ortega by Maureen Fergus

This book is based on the premise that a lowland gorilla, born prematurely and abandoned by his mother, is acquired by a scientist for experimentation. Surgically enhanced, he is taught to speak, read and write. At the age of eleven, this wise-cracking, teddy-bear loving gorilla is enrolled in a small, local school in exchange for a grant.

The Present Tense of Prinny Murphy by Jill MacLean

Prinny has a lot to deal with, an alcoholic mother, a best friend who is spending all his time with his new girlfriend and three school bullies and a family secret. How can she come to deal with all this?

Zoobreak by Gordon Korman

When her pet monkey turns up in a private zoo, Savannah's friends agree to help her free the creature, but things go hilariously wrong!